THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/603,076

Confirmation No. 9562

Applicant

T. TAKEDA et al

Filed

June 23, 2003

Title

DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM INCLUDING

STORAGE SYSTEMS

TC/AU

2188

Examiner

C.E. Walter

Docket No. :

H-5021

Customer No.:

24956

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop AF P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In the Notice of Allowance mailed December 30, 2005, the Examiner has included some reasons for allowance with which Applicants disagree. Therefore, these comments are being filed in order to clarify the record.

On page 3, lines 3-12 of the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner compares various elements of the reference to West et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,446,175) to claim 1 of the present application. In this portion, the Examiner states that the first copy manager of claim 1 corresponds to primary storage controller 110 of West et al (see page 3, lines 6-8). However, later in the same paragraph, the Examiner equates the storage controller of claim 1 to primary storage controller 110 of West et al (see page

3, lines 11-12). However, it is clearly stated in claim 1 that the first host (not the first storage subsystem) has the first copy manager. As such, the first copy manager cannot correspond to primary storage controller 110 of West et al.

Furthermore, the Examiner refers to incorrect claim language (namely, "the first host having access to a first copy manager") instead of the current claim terminology (namely, "the first host has a first copy manager"). A similar problem can be found with respect to the second copy manager at page 3, lines 16-18 of the Notice of Allowability.

In addition, on page 4, line 5 of the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner appears to state that the first communication link corresponds to element 118 of West et al. However, element 118 of West et al is a link between storage controllers, while the first communication link recited in claim 1 is a communication link between hosts. As such, element 118 of West et al is completely different from the first communication link recited in claim 1. Finally, as previously stated, the Examiner comments do not refer to the current claim language in some instances. For example, the Examiner uses the phrase "a first communication link coupling the first storage system and the second storage system" instead of using the correct claim terminology, namely "a first communication link coupling the first host and the second host".

Therefore, these comments are being submitted to clarify the record. The Examiner is hereby invited to file further statements if there is any disagreement with

Appl. No. 10/603,076 Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance dated March 30, 2006

Applicants' comments. While no fees are believed to be necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account 50-1417 for any fees that may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By_

Shrinath Malur Reg. No. 34,663

(703) 684-1120